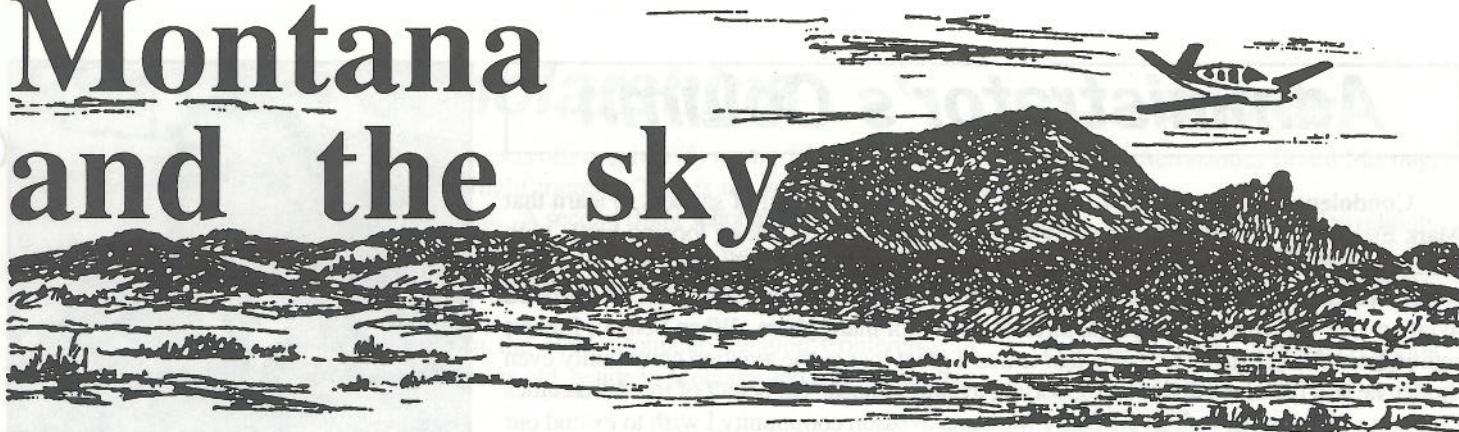


Montana and the sky



MT Department of Transportation - Aeronautics Division

Vol. 43, No. 12 December 1992

Essential Air Service Update

The Governor's Essential Air Service Task Force met during November. The Task Force consists of representatives from the communities receiving essential air service. John Rabenberg, Wolf Point serves as Chairman of the group.

The US Department of Transportation contracts with Big Sky Airlines of Billings to provide this service to the seven eastern Montana points and Williston, North Dakota.

A competitive proposal has been received by the DOT for the Williston-Bismarck portion of the route system. The proposal comes from a company headquartered in Spencer, Iowa and affiliated with United Airlines.

The DOT will be receiving comments for this proposal through December 9, 1992 prior to making its recommendation to the Assistant Secretary.



Pictured from l to r are task force and staff members: Robert "Tubby" Zeigler, Glendive; Ray Tweeten, Havre; Debbie Alke; John Rabenberg, Wolf Point; Mike Ferguson; Fred Klein, Sidney; Leon Jacobs, Lewistown; and Jack Daniels, Williston.

Aeronautics Board Meets

The Montana Aeronautics Board conducted a meeting November 6 in Helena. The nine-member board approved a \$1,000 preliminary engineering grant for the community of Broadus.

Loren Smith, Montana Pilots's Association (MPA), told the Board that the MPA will probably be introducing legislation to increase the aviation user fee from the current 1¢ per gallon to 3¢ per gallon. Regular scheduled airline carriers would be exempt from this 2¢ increase.

One cent of the increase will be placed into a revolving trust fund for airports to borrow money to perform major airport improvements and to allow airports to participate in the 90% federal airport improvement program. The fund should self-perpetuate with all repayments and interest deposited back into the fund. A sunset provision will be placed on this 1¢.

The other penny will be spent for Aeronautics Division items. Mr. Smith said the intent is not to build bureaucracy, but to purchase runway cones, AWOS, NDBs, VASIs, PAPIs, etc.

All factors of the legislation have not been completely determined. The Board voted to support the MPA's efforts until such time that a final draft is available for review.

In other business, the Board received final fiscal year end figures. For the first time in many years, the Division through implementation of many cuts has kept its expenditures under its earned income for the year.

See BOARD MEETS, page 3

Administrator's Column

Condolences to the Etchart Family: It is with a great deal of sadness to learn that Mark Etchart of Glasgow passed away recently. Mark fought a long losing battle with cancer. Mark Etchart was a very strong supporter of aviation in Montana and as a State Representative and Senator was responsible for several legislative bills which benefitted aviation. He was an active pilot and aircraft owner for many years. When Senator Etchart retired from the Senate a few years ago it was a great loss to the aviation community even though he still remained active in supporting aviation issues. On behalf of the Aeronautics Division and Board as well as the entire Montana aviation community I wish to extend our condolences to the Etchart family.



Flight Service Station Closures: The FAA has notified our office of the following Montana Flight Service Station decommissionings: Lewistown - March 17, 1993; Miles City - March 3, 1993; Cut Bank - March 31, 1993; Livingston - February 17, 1993. This will be a great loss to these communities, however, we all fought a long and hard battle to keep our flight service stations and although we lost we certainly have made it known that we expect the FAA to keep their promise of "EQUAL TO OR BETTER SERVICE" with the new consolidated Flight Service Station in Great Falls. I recently had a complete tour of the new Consolidated FSS in Great Falls and was impressed with all of their new equipment and improved capabilities. Much of the frustrations we have gone through in using the new FSS system can be by-passed if we learn how to access the particular information we desire which includes the "fast file" for flight plans. I would like to encourage you to visit the new FSS when you are in Great Falls and get a tour. You will be most welcome! I believe you too will be impressed as well as learn some new information as I did.



Veterans Flight Training Expanded: Congress has expanded the veterans flight training program by now allowing a 60% reimbursement of solo flight. In addition, veterans will be allowed reimbursement for up to two hours of aircraft rental for flight checks. To qualify veterans must already have a private pilots license and a second-class medical and have served in the military while either the Montgomery G.I. Bill or the Veterans Education Assistance Program were in effect. As I have mentioned in earlier newsletter publications, legislation was introduced by Senator Daschle of SD.



New Insurance Requirements For Air Taxi Operators: The Department of Transportation has issued a final rule which will repeal the previous exemption of liability insurance for Air Taxi operators. The Air Taxi operators must now carry the same liability insurance coverage as other air carriers. The only difference will be the total coverage per aircraft per occurrence which is \$300,000 for any person in any one occurrence and a minimum of \$2,000,000 per aircraft for each occurrence.



Best Wishes: On behalf of the Aeronautics Division and Board I would like to take this opportunity to wish each of you a BEAUTIFUL CHRISTMAS AND A PROSPEROUS AS WELL AS SAFE FLYING 1993.



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John Rothwell, Director

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99s Offer Scholarships

The Montana Chapter of the Ninety Nines is offering two (2) memorial scholarships to aid financing two female student pilot's flight training. This is the second year for the Esther Combes-Vance Memorial Scholarship. A second flight scholarship has been established by the 99s, the Vern Vine Memorial Scholarship. Vern was a pioneer Montana aviator and was honored at the 99's Section Meeting in August 1991. Mr. Vine passed away in early 1992.

Both scholarships will be awarded at the 1993 Montana Aviation Conference at Missoula. Applicants must be at least 16 years old, reside in Montana and receive training in Montana.

Interested applicants must submit an essay of approximately 500 words stating the reasons for wanting to learn to fly, including where the interest began and plans for their private pilot certificate. In addition, applicants must include their plans for contributing to the growth and betterment of the Montana Ninety Nines.

Other application materials are required. For more information or to obtain an application call or write: Tina Pomeroy, 1214 West Crawford, Livingston, MT 59047, phone 222-6826; or write to Gail Sanchez-Eaton at 719 So. 9th, Bozeman, MT 59715.

The deadline for submitting an application is January 31, 1992—so hurry and call for an application today.

ALOA Scholarship

A Love of Aviation Scholarship (ALOA) has been established beginning in 1993. With the retirement of the Van De Riet Flight Scholarship in 1992, a unanimous donor has generously expressed desire to continue this worthwhile flight scholarship.

The scholarship is to be used to help defray costs of flight instruction and will be presented during the 1993 Montana Aviation Conference in Missoula.

Award of the scholarship will be based on applications in the form of a letter explaining the reasons for applying and outlining outstanding achievements, future career goals and past aviation experience.

Letters of application should be sent to Montana Aeronautics Division, no later than January 31, 1993, at P.O. Box 5178, Helena, MT 59604, or call Mike Ferguson at 444-2506 for more information.

Conference Program Takes Shape

The 1993 Montana Aviation Conference promises to offer something of interest for anyone involved in aviation. The conference will be held February 24-27 at the Holiday Inn at Missoula.

Cosponsors for this year's conference are the Montana Airport Management Association, the Montana Aviation Trades Association, the Montana Pilots Association, the Civil Air Patrol and the Montana Aeronautics Division. Kevin Grenier of Aerotronics is serving as chairman of the host committee and a number of other dedicated volunteers are diligently working.

Exhibit space for the trade show is selling fast with reservations having been made by aviation businesses from all over the U.S. Exhibitors are expected to begin setting up displays on Wednesday, February 24, and the trade show will open on Thursday morning, February 25.

The conference will officially open with the kick-off luncheon on Thursday, February 25. Look for a tentative program to be printed in next month's issue.

Calendar

Jan. 8—Aeronautics Board Meeting, Helena.

Jan. 26-28—AMAA Convention, Heritage Inn, Great Falls.

Feb. 5-7, 1993—Flight Instructor Refresher Clinic, Helena.

Feb. 24-27, 1993—Montana Aviation Conference, Holiday Inn, Missoula.

March 1-3, 1993—Upper Midwest Aviation Symposium, Bismarck, North Dakota.

BOARD MEETS, from page 1

Ron Mercer, Manager, Helena Regional Airport, presented an update on the Regional Burn-Pit Facility to be constructed on the Helena Airport.

He explained that a total of \$2.8 million of federal and local money has been allocated for the project. Currently, project costs are exceeding the expectations and estimated to be approximately \$4 million.

Mr. Mercer said the possibility of fewer centers being built exists. He is confident that the facility will be constructed as planned at Helena and the Helena Airport is prepared to move forward with the project.

Helena is ahead of other states in this region in the overall planning of the facility. Many activities and uses are planned for the Helena facility in addition to fire- training by outside agencies, said Mr. Mercer.

George Walker provided an update on the Department's strategic plan process and legislation affecting the Division.

The next meeting of the Aeronautics Board will be January 8 in the Board Room at the Division offices beginning at 10:00 am.

Flying Farmers and Ranchers Convene



October 2-4 were the dates of the 46th Annual Convention of the Montana Flying Farmers and Ranchers. Newly elected officers are Marilyn Lewis, Secretary-Treasurer, Leona Strouf, Vice-President, and Peggy Boesch, President. Don Zimbleman, International Vice-President from North Dakota installed the officers.



Sandy Seaton, Cowgirl Poet and Singer, charmed the crowd at the banquet held Saturday evening. All events were held at the Park Inn at Lewistown.



This group of convention attendees prepares for an afternoon tour program. Tours of Mountain Industries, HiHeat Industries and HCR Incorporated were conducted.



Ruth Sondreson (seated) is the newly elected 1992-93 Queen for Montana. Pictured with Ruth from l to r are: Dorothy Langhous, Montana's 1991-92 Queen; Diane Dahl, International Duchess from North Dakota; and South Dakota's 1992-93 Queen, Pauline Van Gerpen.



Both Board and Business Meetings were conducted at the convention. Pictured are outgoing President Woody Boesch and Ruth Sondreson.



The 1992 Woman and Man of the Year Awards were presented to Meredith Kummerfeldt and Frank Kummerfeldt of Nashua. The awards are being presented by the 1991 recipients, Ruth Sondreson and Mike Ferguson.



Guy and Joan Willson (l) and Jim and Marilyn Lewis (r) enjoy the luncheon featured speaker, Dick Strouf. Dick gave a presentation on "Flying to Alaska". Jim and Marilyn served as convention chairs for the event.

FAA Issues Certificates

Private

Laurie Dower	Great Falls
Bradley Finn	Billings
David Frickel	Park City
Douglas Forest	Great Falls
Steven Kleimer	Bozeman
Kent Nelson	Livingston
Ryan Richardson	Bigfork
Gregory Schneider	Gardiner
Martha Wegner	Libby
Steven Willey	Brady

ATP

Randall Cambridge	Missoula
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B-707

Peter Baccarella	Columbia Falls
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Commercial

Charles Moreledge	Billings
-------------------	----------

Instrument

Patrick Altenbrun	Missoula
-------------------	----------

IGI

John Curran	Billings
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CFI

Richard Romero	Billings
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CFI Renew

Denney Bridges	Helena
John Ellis	Billings
Patrick O'Brian	Great Falls
Gregory Ugrin	Miles City
Daniel Warnick	Missoula

ATTENTION: Montana Pilots

Mike Ferguson was recently asked by Ernest Tooke (Ekalaka) to review a new book - HERO with WINGS. Mike passed the book on to a good friend and experienced fighter pilot, Ted Beck, of Helena to read. The following review was written by Ted.

After reading the book, I would like to highly recommend it to all pilots. The book tells of a young WWII and then Korea pilot, Randy Crown, from Grass Valley, MT. The story starts out with Crown, a service station attendant graduating from High School, going off to the Army Air Corp to be a pilot cadet.

It tells of his flying experiences through the end of WWII with 51 shoot downs over North Africa and Europe, flying P-40's and P-51's. It illustrates peace as we knew it between WWII and Korea, the formation of the U.S. Air Force and flying the first jet aircraft. When war breaks out in Korea we find Crown combat flying F-51's there as a squadron commander. The book ends with the conclusion of the Korean conflict.

There are many references to life and flying in Montana as well as detailed descriptions of combat flying. A must for those of you that dreamed of flying a P-51; not to mention a bit of romance!

Ted said that although this story is fiction the dates and places are historically accurate and the author is obviously either a highly experience fighter pilot or has done extensive research to make this a "real life story".

Great Falls AFSS Changes

By: Pat Terry
Great Falls AFSS

Great Falls AFSS has, over the last several weeks, added several additional radio frequencies to its operation. Billings FSS closed on August 21st and pilots in that vicinity can now call GTF on 122.55. Missoula FSS closed November 12th and GTF covers that area on 122.45. Additional frequencies now terminating at GTF include:

Harlowton ... 122.4	Wolf Point ... 122.45
Sidney 123.65	Glendive 122.55
Miles City ... 122.2	

Miles City FSS will remain open until July 1993 and still monitors 123.6 for airport advisories and other services. The total frequencies at Great Falls now number 22, with additional ones scheduled over the next few months. This radio position at the AFSS, called "inflight", is normally staffed by only one specialist and can at times become congested with several pilots calling in simultaneously on different frequencies. It is for this reason that the AFSS strongly encourages pilots to file flight plans while still on the ground. Touch tone telephone users can bypass the recordings and being put "on hold" by simply using the fast-file recorder function.

Pilots can learn more about this fast-file feature by reviewing the blue Montana Pilot Bulletin mailed to all Montana registered pilots this past July. Additional copies can be obtained by calling the GTF AFSS at (800) 992-7433 or (406) 452-4892.

One final note, it is a big help to the FSS specialists if, when calling on the radio, that you identify the frequency on which you are calling on and your general location. A forthcoming Letter to Airmen regarding radio techniques and procedures is being prepared by Great Falls AFSS and will be mailed to all Montana pilots in early 1993.

Research Program Underway

By: Redge Meierhenry
Aviation Representative

Reorganization of the Montana Aeronautics Division took place by legislative mandate in July of 1991 with the establishment of a Department of Transportation. Despite numerous problems and upheavals this has caused, there are advantages of which we hope to avail.

The Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) has instituted a research program and created the organization in which all divisions of MDT participate. This newly formed Research Management Unit (RMU) is modeled after the South Dakota program. Funding for the unit is derived from the 1991 Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA).

The purpose of the RMU is to "conduct research to discover, develop or extend knowledge needed to operate, maintain and improve the statewide transportation system". Problems that can be addressed by the RMU include new technologies, materials, methods, design techniques or causes of transportation problems.

Being part of the MDOT allows the Aeronautics Division to both submit problem statements of Aeronautics interest and manage the conductance of a research program on at least one selected topic per fiscal year.

Our first topic has been selected for development which is the economic benefit of airports in Montana. The following list is being reviewed for following year funding.

1. Aviation Weather Collection and Dissemination
2. Asphalt Pavement Maintenance - Analysis of sealer/rejuvenators performance
3. Economic Enterprise Zones
4. Airport Zoning

Issues identified by NBAA members

In May, NBAA member companies participated in a survey of member needs conducted by Phaneuf Associates of Washington D.C.

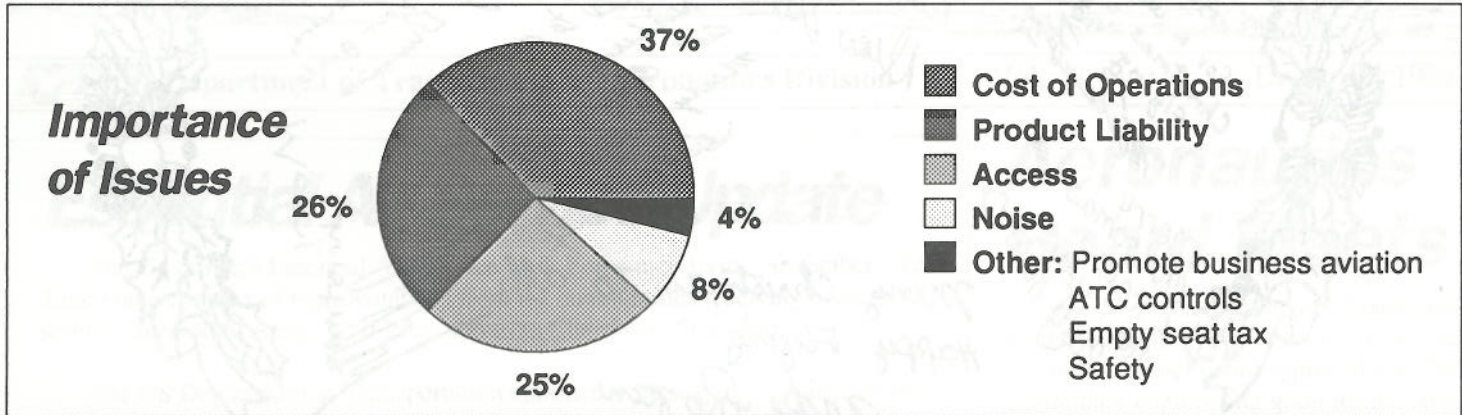
With an excellent response rate (47 percent), the results indicate that business and

corporate members "hold their Association and its services in high regard" — with 99 percent of respondents saying they could recommend NBAA membership to others.

The survey sought feedback on the various services and publications provided

by the Association and offered a prioritization of issues respondents deemed most important to them.

Not surprisingly, cost of operations (37 percent) and product liability (26 percent) led the list, with airport/airway access ranking a close third (25 percent).



Airspace Reclassification at a Glance

FL 600 18,000 MSL

CLASS A

CLASS B

CLASS C

CLASS D

CLASS E

CLASS G

1,500 MSL

700 AGL

1,200 AGL

AGL - above ground level FL - flight level MSL - mean sea level

Effective September 16, 1993

Airspace Features	Class A	Class B	Class C	Class D	Class E	Class G
Former Airspace Equivalent	Positive Control Area (PCA)	Terminal Control Area (TCA)	Airport Radar Service Area (ARSA)	Airport Traffic Area (ATA) and Control Zone (CZ)	General Controlled Airspace	Uncontrolled Airspace
Operations Permitted	IFR	IFR and VFR	IFR and VFR	IFR and VFR	IFR and VFR	IFR and VFR
Entry Requirements	ATC clearance	ATC clearance	ATC clearance for IFR. All require radio contact.	ATC clearance for IFR. All require radio contact.	ATC clearance for IFR. All IFR require radio contact.	None
Minimum Pilot Qualifications	Instrument Rating	Private or student certificate	Student certificate	Student certificate	Student certificate	Student certificate
Two-way Radio Communications	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes for IFR	No
VFR Minimum Visibility	N/A	3 statute miles	3 statute miles	3 statute miles	3 statute miles	3 statute miles
VFR Minimum Distance from Clouds	N/A	Clear of clouds	500' below, 1,000' above, and 2,000' horizontal	500' below, 1,000' above, and 2,000' horizontal	500' below, 1,000' above, and 2,000' horizontal	Clear of clouds
Aircraft Separation	All	All	IFR, SVFR, and runway operations	IFR, SVFR, and runway operations	IFR and SVFR	None
Conflict Resolution	N/A	N/A	Between IFR and VFR ops	No	No	No
Traffic Advisories	N/A	N/A	Yes	Workload permitting	Workload permitting	Workload permitting
Safety Advisories	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Differs from ICAO	No	Yes	Yes	Yes for VFR	No	Yes for VFR
Changes the Existing Rule	No	Yes for VFR	No	Yes	No	No

Airspace Reclassification at a Glance

And An Easy-to-Read Chart

Merry
Christmas!

Merry
Christmas!

Best Wishes
for a wonderful
Christmas and safe
Flying '93!
Mike Ferguson

Feliz Navidad!
Nenei Allen

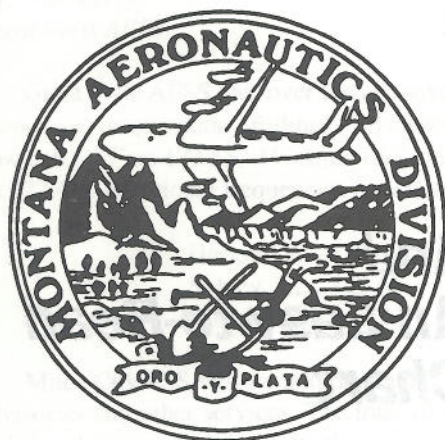
1993
May your rewards
be equal to your goals.
Jenny Blum

Here's to all your
wishes - May they
all come true!
Merry Christmas -
Sara Bault

Merry
Christmas
& Happy
New Year!
Patty Hault

Merry Christmas to all,
Happy Flying.
Mike Rogan

Thirty-three hundred copies of this public document were produced at an estimated cost of 37¢ each, for a total cost of \$1,210. This includes \$60 for production, \$526 for postage and \$624 for printing.



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